

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action dated November 2, 2011. Reconsideration and allowance of the application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-20 are pending in the Application. Claims 1, 5, 8, 12 and 20 are independent claims.

By means of the present amendment, the claims are amended including for better conformance to U.S. practice, such as changing "characterized in that" to --wherein--, correcting typographical errors, amending dependent claims to begin with "The" and correcting certain informalities noted upon review of the claims. By these amendments, the claims are not amended to address issues of patentability and Applicants respectfully reserve all rights under the Doctrine of Equivalents. Applicants furthermore reserve the right to reintroduce subject matter deleted herein at a later time during the prosecution of this application or continuing applications.

In the Office Action, claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101. In the interest of expediting consideration and allowance of the pending claims, the Applicants have elected to amend the claims to address the concerns raised in the Office Action. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the rejected claims are in proper form and it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 7 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. In the interest of expediting consideration and allowance of the pending claims, the rejected claims are amended as suggested in the Office Action. Accordingly, it is respectfully

submitted that the rejected claims are in proper form and it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,868,292 to Ficco et al. ("Ficco") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,218,931 to Asghar et al. ("Asghar"). This rejection is respectfully traversed. It is respectfully submitted that the rejected claims are allowable over the presented prior art references for at least the following reasons.

In rejecting the independent claims, at pages 6 over to 7 the Office Action references HTML file received from the device 801 in Figure 9 of Ficco. However, describing Figure 9, Ficco describes this file as follows: "The HTML files for a respective device define the command and control functions for that particular home device." Ficco further discloses the following:

The session manager 815 provides the primary interface between a user 802 and the home network 800. The session manager, when properly activated, generates a session page (not shown) that provides an interface that allows users to command and to control device 801 that is connected to the home network 800 in order to perform various functions and/or services.

Accordingly, Ficco does not teach, disclose or suggest "retrieving from a plurality of application devices input documents reflecting the status of the respective application devices" and "sending at least one of the output documents to each device of the plurality of the application devices participating in the user experience"

The Office Action also references col. 16, lines 1-4 and lines 14-16 of Ficco as disclosing the generating and performing elements of the claims. The referenced sections describe the following:

Transmitter 910 may also include a high-frequency oscillator that generates a carrier wave, and a high-frequency mixer that modulates the carrier with the baseband signal to generate a narrowband transmit signal.

and

A receiver in the network interface 920 receives a wideband communications signal from the network 900.

However, these selections and the rest of Ficco fail to teach, disclose or suggest "generating output documents for each respective application device comprising at least one instruction based at least on a part of the retrieved identification of the user and at least a part of the input document, and ... upon receipt of the at least one output document, at least one of the participating devices performing the at least one instruction."

As discussed in the specification, the claimed invention is directed to saving time it takes to control many devices and to limit the number of times the preferred setting or parameters of each of the devices to be controlled are repeated for the purpose of controlling devices that will participate in the user experience (see, present application, page 2, line 30 through page 3, line 14).

As recited substantially in the claims, the subset of the participating devices is selected from the full set or the plurality of the application devices. Therefore, the input documents are received from and reflect the status of the application devices and the output documents are sent back to the application devices that participate. In other words, the subset of the participating devices belongs to the full set of the plurality of the application devices.

In any event, it is undisputed that, as admitted at page 7 of the Office Action, Ficco does not teach, disclose, or suggest "input documents reflecting the status of the respective

application devices". Asghar is cited to provide that which is admitted missing from Ficco, however, it is respectfully submitted that reliance on Asghar is misplaced.

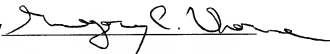
It is respectfully submitted that the claims are not anticipated or made obvious by the teachings of the presented prior art references. For example, Ficco in view of Asghar does not teach, disclose or suggest, amongst other patentable elements, (illustrative emphasis added) "controlling a plurality of application devices including at least one participating in a user experience, the method comprising the acts of: a server: retrieving from the plurality of application devices input documents reflecting the status of the respective application devices, retrieving identification of a user, generating output documents for each respective application device comprising at least one instruction based at least on a part of the retrieved identification of the user and at least a part of the input document, and sending at least one of the output documents to each device of the plurality of the application devices participating in the user experience; and upon receipt of the at least one output document, at least one of the participating devices performing the at least one instruction", as recited in claim 1, and as similarly recited in claims 5, 8, 12 and 20.

Based on the foregoing, the Applicants respectfully submit that the independent claims are patentable and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited. The dependent claims respectively depend from one of the independent claims and accordingly are allowable for at least this reason as well as for the separately patentable elements contained in each of the claims. Accordingly, separate consideration of each of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

In addition, Applicants deny any statement, position, or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicants reserve the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

Applicants have made a diligent and sincere effort to place this application in condition for immediate allowance and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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